NEW 2026 GALAPAGOS ADVENTURES WITH CELEBRITY CRUISES



With Celebrity's new 2026 Galapagos Islands packages, you can have it all on the all-inclusive journey of a lifetime. The one-of-akind Celebrity Flora® is the first all-suites mega yacht designed exclusively for sailing the Galapagos Islands, and it's the first and only ship here to receive a Forbes Travel Guide Four-Star Rating.

AN ALL-INCLUSIVE, SEAMLESS EXPERIENCE

We've thought of every detail on our blissfully all-inclusive Galapagos adventures, so you can soak up every moment. From hotel stays in Quito with transfers and private flights between Ecuador's mainland and the islands to twice-daily expeditions guided by Galapagos National Park certified naturalists—we've got them covered. Gratuities and unlimited Wi-Fi are also included.





TRAVEL RESPONSIBLY IN THE GALAPAGOS

Plus, you can relax knowing you're traveling in good company. From Celebrity Flora's eco-friendly innovations to ongoing sustainability efforts, like our Scalesia tree reforestation project and local organic farming initiatives, we're dedicated to leaving the Galapagos Islands even better than we found them.



NASHVILLE

Renowned for its rich musical heritage and classic Southern hospitality, Nashville offers a vibrant music scene, a diverse art landscape and plenty of delicious dining options.







Tempo by Hilton Nashville Downtown

From panoramic rooftop dining to Topgolf Swing Suites, Tempo by Hilton Nashville Downtown offers stunning view and immersive experiences in the heart of Music City.



Embassy Suites by Hilton Nashville Downtown

This hotel offers breathtaking views of Music City and its most notable landmarks. In addition, guests can enjoy free breakfast every morning.



Hotel Fraye Nashville, Curio Collection by Hilton

Featuring a vibrant, sophisticated dining scene and eclectic guest rooms, Hotel Fraye Nashville provides a stylish downtown sanctuary. Enjoy the sparkling outdoor pool and delightful cocktails from the rooftop with an epic view.



The Bankers Alley Hotel Nashville, Tapestry Collection by Hilton

A lifestyle haven nestled in the historic Gray & Dudley building, The Bankers Alley Hotel features a contemporary art museum, elevated Southern cuisine and unrivaled access to all that downtown has to offer.



Conrad Nashville

A stone's throw from Music Row and Vanderbilt University, and close to key venues like Bridgestone Arena and Nissan Stadium, Conrad Nashville merges modern luxury with the vibrant





GROUPS 2024 AND 2025

SEPTEMBER 4, 2024-BLACK HILLS, MT. RUSHMORE, and BADLANDS

Highlights: Mt. Rushmore by day and night, Devil's Tower, Crazy Horse Memorial, Custer State Park and Buffalo Jeep Safari. Six nights hotel, six breakfasts and four dinners, all sightseeing and round-trip air fare. Rate is \$3,395.00 per person double occupancy.

OCTOBER 13, 2024-NATIONAL PARKS and CANYONS of the SOUTHWEST

Highlights: Grand Canyon and Bryce Canyon, Zion National Park Tram and Hoover Dam. Two nights in Las Vegas and three nights in Mesquite, five breakfasts, one lunch and two dinners, all sightseeing and round-trip air fare. Rate is \$3,395.00 per person double occupancy.

OCTOBER 20, 2024-SUNNY PORTUGAL (with optional 4-night Madeira Island extension)

Highlights: Lisbon, Belem, Cork Factory, Evora, Winery visit, Alentejo, Lagos, Algarve, Silves, Setubal, Obidos, and Sintra. Includes eight breakfasts, three lunches and three dinners, all included sightseeing, all current air taxes and fees along with transfers t/from Newark and round0-trip airfare. Bookings must be made by April 15th. Rate is \$3,999.00 per person double. PASSPORT IS REQUIRED.

DECEMBER 7, 2024-ROYAL CLIPPER (round trip Barbados)

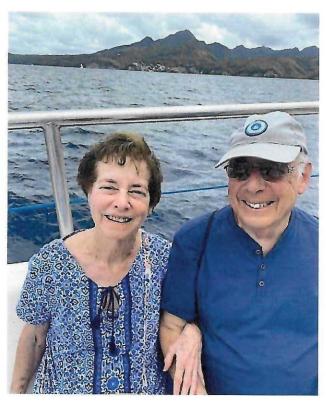
Would you like to climb the mast to the crow's nest 75 feet above the deck or visit the open bridge where you can help sail the vessel? If so, this tall ship adventure is your ticket. Casual and relaxes with top notch dining and less than 250 passengers. Have a tropical drink while you relax in the bowsprit netting while listening to a steel drum band on deck. Visit Grenada, St. Vincent, Bequia, Martinique and St. Lucia. Rate per person for an outside cabin, including current taxes, is \$2,475.00. Our special pricing also includes pre-paid gratuities and an on board credit of \$200. per person.

MARCH 3, 2025-ALASKA'S NORTHERN LIGHTS

Highlights: Anchorage, Northern Lights excursions, Winter Glacier cruise, Prince William Sound, Talkeetna, Alaska Railroad, Fairbanks, and Dog mushing. Two nights in Anchorage, one in Talkeetna and three in Fairbanks, six breakfasts, one lunch and four dinners. With just 12-24 passengers, this is a personal journey and adventure that today's cultural explorers dream of. Rate is \$4,999.00 per person double occupancy including all above and air fare to/from Newark with transfers.

NOVEMBER 25, 2025-ICONIC CHRISTMAS MARKETS ABOARD AMA REINA (Nuremburg to Budapest)

Travel back through centuries as you walk along cobblestone streets through grand cities and historic towns bedecked with twinkling Christmas trees and lined with wooden huts gleaming with handcrafted treasures. Nuremberg's festive Christkindlemarkt, the largest and oldest Christmas market in Germany, Regensburg's Artisan Christmas Market, one of Bavaria's most beautiful and romantic, Vienna with its impressive Christmas Market and Budapest where most products are handmade. Revel in a feast for the senses: sparkling lights, festive sounds of children dressed as angels singing carols and the enticing smells of hot-mulled wine, roasted chestnuts, sausages, and sweet treats of every kind. Rates start at \$3,699.00 per person double occupancy. Air fare and pre and post options will be available in early 2025. A deposit of \$400 per person is required. This special rate is in effect until March 31, 2024.



Special Moments at Sea Vince Poisella

"So, how was your cruise"?

There is a certain calmness and contentment in normality. We know our routine. We are comfortable with the everyday pleasures. Step out of that mode, and special moments arise. Just the two of us.

Somewhere warm in late February and early March. The Caribbean.

We chose Oceania and ended up on their newest ship in the fleet, the Vista. Out of Miami, ten days. It may have been a stretch on the budget, but it had its advantages, not having to agree with others in making decisions as to where to go or what to do. We had taken cruises over the years with family and friends, or occasionally just the two of us. Let's do it! And so we did.

Not having to prepare dinner or clean up after our meals each evening was the least of it. Being on a ship with multiple opportunities for relaxed enjoyment, meeting new people (or not), seeing the shows, and signing up for excursions at each port. A diversion from our everyday lives.

On board out of Miami to the eastern Caribbean, we visited Antigua, Grenada, Barbados, St. Lucia, and St. Bart's, each stop with warm, pleasant breezes, sparkling beaches, and new friends, especially from Canada and the U.S. All we had to do each day was to wear a smile and say "yes" to every rising opportunity.

Rosaleen's Irish Soda Bread

It's also a one bowl recipe and makes a sizeable loaf which freezes well in quarters. It's a very forgiving recipe, with some chefs preferring to add a whole egg with the wet ingredients to increase the richness.

This soda bread would be eaten with all meals through the day. It is a great way to use up sour milk.

Prep time: 10 minutes

Baking time: 45-50 minutes

Ingredients

250g Stone Ground Coarse Whole Meal Flour

200g Plain white flour

1.5 tsp. salt

1 tsp. baking soda

380ml sour milk or buttermilk

1 egg (optional)

Pre-heat oven to 220C

Using a large bowl, mix together your dry ingredients well.

Making a well in the centre add your buttermilk, mix with your hand until all of the flour is incorporated. It is a wet dough but shouldn't be overly sticky, add extra white flour if needed.

Flour your countertop very well and turn out dough, flour your hands and tidy up the dough into a neat squat ball.

Place loaf on lightly floured baking tray. Mark with a deep cross.

Place loaf in the oven and after 20 minutes reduce heat to 180C. A further 25 minutes at 180C should see it cooked through.

To test turn upside down and tap on the bottom, if it sounds hollow it's done. If not return to the oven upside down for 5-10mins and retest.

Tip: sour milk should be whole milk (4%) – if using skimmed sour milk (2%) add some room temp butter to the recipe.



The Queen's Staircase in Nassau, Bahamas to Undergo \$200K Restoration

One of the Bahamas' most historic landmarks is getting a little extra TLC.

The Nassau Paradise Island Promotion Board (NPIPB) has announced the launch of a \$200,000 restoration and maintenance project of the Queen's Staircase at the Fort Fincastle Historic Complex in Nassau, a landmark dating back to the late 1700s.

"With its historical significance and architectural splendor, The Queen's Staircase holds a special place in the hearts of both locals and visitors. I am thrilled to be launching this restoration project to ensure it remains a treasured spot for years to come," said Joy Jibrilu, CEO of NPIPB. "This restoration project reflects the NPIPB's commitment to improving product quality, development, and tourism infrastructure in Nassau & Paradise Island, and we look forward to seeing our cultural landmark returned to its full glory."

The history behind the staircase

The Queen's Staircase, also known locally as the 66 Steps, was built by freed slaves between 1793 and 1794 to provide a direct route from Fort Fincastle to Nassau City. Some accounts say the entire staircase took 16 years to complete. About 600 former slaves carved each step from solid limestone with hand tools and pick axes, and each step is precisely the same height.

Though initially intended to be an invisible route, the remarkable structure was later named for Queen Victoria, who abolished slavery in 1837 and served on the throne for more than 60 years until 1901. The Queen's Staircase has become a popular attraction in the Bahamas. It now has 65 steps because the bottom step has been paved over.

"The ingenuity shown by formerly enslaved people, carving sixty-six steps using rudimentary tools into a former limestone quarry, is a remarkable achievement. It is no wonder that for almost 200 years this staircase has become such a prominent tourist attraction," said Rosel Moxey, Chair of the AMMC Board. "What was once meant to be invisible, has been observed, photographed, and traversed by millions, with many more visitors expected in the future thanks to this project."





2024 NORTHERN EUROPE & ICELAND EXPEDITIONS